

Application No. 10/798,852
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for grabbing a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail, the device comprising:

a frame configured to be mounted on a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail; and

a plurality of moveable elements coupled to said frame, said moveable elements being configured to ~~constrained to~~ move outwardly in order to contact respective first and second parallel rails;

wherein, when said plurality of moveable elements move outwardly, said device is fixed to the first and second spaced apart rails.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a rotator connected to said frame.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein said rotator is hydraulically operated.

Application No. 10/798 052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

4. **(Currently Amended)** The device of claim 21, wherein said frame further comprises notches sized and configured such that the first and second rails fit within said respective notches when said frame is in contact with the first and second rails.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The device of claim 4, wherein said movable elements further comprise:

a first hydraulic cylinder located at a first end of said frame, said first hydraulic cylinder being connected to a first pair of pins; and

a second hydraulic cylinder located at a second end of said frame, said second hydraulic cylinder being connected to a second pair of pins;

wherein, when said hydraulically operated elements are actuated, said first hydraulic cylinder forces said first pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of each of the first and second rails, and wherein, when said hydraulically operated elements are actuated, said second hydraulic cylinder forces said second pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of each of the first and second rails, thus fixing said frame to the rails.

6. **(Original)** The device of claim 5, wherein said pins comprise metal having a diameter of at least 2 inches.

7. **(Original)** The device of claim 51, further comprising a piece of equipment capable of lifting and transporting said device when said device is fixed to the rail panel.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

8. **(Original)** The device of claim 7, wherein said piece of equipment has an operator, said operator being able to attach said device to the rail panel, lift the rail panel, and transport the rail panel without additional human assistance.

9. **(Original)** The device of claim 8, wherein said device can be attached to the rail panel at a point offset from a center of the panel.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

10. **(Currently Amended)** A modular device for grabbing and moving a rail panel, the rail panel comprising a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail, the device comprising:

a frame configured to be mounted on a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail;

a rotator coupled to said frame; and

a plurality of hydraulically operated elements coupled to said frame;

wherein, when said hydraulically operated elements are actuated, said frame modular device is fixed to the first and second spaced apart, parallel rails, and wherein said device can be connected to a piece of equipment capable of moving said device when it is fixed to the first and second rails.

11. **(Original)** The device of claim 10, wherein said rotator is hydraulically operated.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The device of claim 10, wherein said frame further comprises notches sized and configured such that the first rail fits within respective notches and the second rails fits within respective -within said notches when said frame is in contact with the first and second rails.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

13. **(Currently Amended)** The device of claim 12, wherein said hydraulically operated elements are pins and further comprising:

a first hydraulic cylinder located at a first end of said frame, said first hydraulic cylinder being connected to a first pair of said pins; and

a second hydraulic cylinder located at a second end of said frame, said second hydraulic cylinder being connected to a second pair of said pins;

~~wherein, upon actuation, when said pins are actuated, said first hydraulic cylinder forces said first pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of each of the first and second rails, and wherein, when said pins are actuated, said second hydraulic cylinder forces said second pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of each of the first and second rails, thus fixing said frame to the rails.~~

14. **(Original)** The device of claim 13, wherein said piece of equipment has an operator, said operator being able to attach said device to the rail panel, lift the rail panel, and transport the rail panel without additional human assistance.

15. **(Original)** The device of claim 14, wherein said device can be attached to the rail panel at a point offset from a center of the panel.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

16. **(Currently Amended)** A system for lifting and transporting a rail panel, the rail panel comprising a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail, wherein each rail is attached to a plurality of ties, the system comprising:

a frame configured to be mounted on a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail;

a plurality of hydraulically operated pins coupled to said frame, wherein, when said hydraulically operated pins are actuated, said frame is fixed to the first and second spaced apart rails; and

a piece of equipment capable of lifting said frame while said frame is fixed to said rails.

17. **(Original)** The system of claim 16, wherein said piece of equipment provides hydraulic power to said hydraulically operated pins.

18. **(Original)** The system of claim 16, further comprising a rotator connected to said frame, wherein said piece of equipment provides hydraulic power to said hydraulically operated pins and to said rotator.

19. **(Original)** The system of claim 16, wherein said frame further comprises notches sized and configured such that the first and second rails fit within said respective notches when said frame is in contact with the first and second rails.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

20. The system of claim ~~19~~16, ~~wherein said hydraulically-operated elements further~~
~~comprise~~ furthering comprising:

a first hydraulic cylinder located at a first end of said frame, said first hydraulic
cylinder being connected to a first pair of said pins; and

a second hydraulic cylinder located at a second end of said frame, said second
hydraulic cylinder being connected to a second pair of said pins;

wherein, upon actuation, ~~when said hydraulically-operated pins are actuated~~, said
first hydraulic cylinder forces said first pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of each of
the first and second rails; and ~~wherein, when said hydraulically-operated pins are actuated~~, said
second hydraulic cylinder forces said second pair of pins into contact with an inside surface of
each of the first and second rails, thus fixing said frame to the rails.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said pins comprise metal having a
diameter of at least 2 inches.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said piece of equipment has an
operator, said operator being able to attach said device to the rail panel, lift the rail panel, and
transport the rail panel without additional human assistance.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein said device can be attached to the
rail panel at a point offset from a center of the panel.

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

24. **(Currently Amended)** A device for grabbing and moving a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail, the device comprising:

a frame configured to be mounted on a rail panel, the rail panel having a first and a second spaced apart rail, the first rail being parallel to the second rail, the frame being configured to receive portions of the first and second parallel rails in respective portions of the frame, wherein the frame is capable of being mounted on the rails; and

a plurality of moveable elements coupled to said frame such that, when said moveable elements contact the parallel rails, the device is fixed to the rails.

25. **(Original)** The device of claim 24, wherein said frame further comprises notches sized and configured such that the first and second rails fit within said notches when said frame is mounted on the first and second rails.

26. **(Original)** The device of claim 25, wherein said moveable elements further comprise:

a first hydraulic cylinder located at a first end of said frame, said first hydraulic cylinder being connected to a first pair of pins; and

a second hydraulic cylinder located at a second end of said frame, said second hydraulic cylinder being connected to a second pair of pins;

wherein, when said hydraulically operated pins are actuated, said first hydraulic cylinder forces said first pair of pins into contact with each of the first and second rails, and

Application No. 10/798,052
Amendment "A" dated September 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed April 4, 2005

wherein, when said hydraulically operated pins are actuated, said second hydraulic cylinder forces said second pair of pins into contact with each of the first and second rails, thus fixing said frame to the rails.

27. (Original) The device of claim 24, further comprising a piece of equipment capable of lifting and moving said frame when said frame is attached to the rails, and wherein said piece of equipment has an operator, said operator being able to attach said device to the rail panel, lift the rail panel, and transport the rail panel without additional human assistance.